

February 13, 2009 **WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Today, Congressman André Carson released the following statement after the House of Representatives passed the final version of H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: “In

these difficult economic times, Americans everywhere are struggling to pay their bills and put food on their tables.

Over 2.6 million Americans who held secure jobs just last year are now unemployed and in urgent need of immediate assistance.

“In November, our expanded Democratic majority was sent to Washington with the promise that we would bring swift and lasting relief to working American families.

With today's passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Congress has followed through on that promise.

"In 2008, Hoosiers watched as statewide unemployment nearly doubled to 8.2%.

In response, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will create 75,000 jobs across Indiana, including 7,400 in the Seventh Congressional District.

Unemployed workers in industries ranging from manufacturing to health care will see their job prospects greatly expanded.

“In order to better help struggling families meet their immediate needs, this landmark legislation provides tax cuts for nearly 2.5 million Hoosier families and expands unemployment insurance for those still unable to find work.

Additionally, the projects funded by this legislation will bring hundreds of schools into the 21st

Century and enacts the largest investment increase in our nation's roads, bridges and mass transit systems since the creation of the national highway system in the 1950s.

These are initiatives that will not only stabilize our sagging economy but also build an America that is better prepared to address the challenges of the future.

“After weeks of negotiation, Congress voiced its resounding support for the American public by passing the most expansive economic stimulus legislation in our nation’s history.

While it will not be the end of our efforts to improve the economy, I am confident that it will successfully provide long sought relief to millions of Americans.

In the coming months, I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress and my constituents in Indianapolis on worthwhile initiatives that will grow our economy and put unemployed Americans back to work.”

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